

Terminal Disclaimer

1. The terminal disclaimers filed on 10/29/2007 disclaiming the terminal portion of any patent granted on this application which would extend beyond the expiration date of US 6,958,525, US 6,727,515 and US Patent Application 11/205,128 have been reviewed and are accepted. The terminal disclaimers have been recorded.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Note that the 112 claim rejections have been withdrawn in view of the present amendment. The 102(e) rejections over US 6,613,834, US 6,958,525 and US 2006/011357 separately have been overcome in view of the declaration under 37 CFR 1.132 filed 10/29/2007. The declaration shows that the invention disclosed but not claimed in the reference was derived from the same inventors of the present application and thus not the invention "by another".

The art rejections over JP 2001-127152 in view of Rutherford et al (US 6,318,124) have been withdrawn in view of the verified translation copy of the priority document of JP 2001-84475.

The obviousness-type double patenting rejections are obviated by the filing of terminal disclaimers over the respective patents and copending application.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hai Vo whose telephone number is (571) 272-1485. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday, from 9:00 to 6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rena Dye can be reached on (571) 272-3186. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Art Unit: 1794

HV

/Hai Vo/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1794